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Date: November 20, 2003

By: 
Carol A. See

PATENT
Docket No. GC560-D1-C1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	
)	
Volker Schellenberger <i>et al.</i>)	
)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Serial No.: Unassigned)	
)	Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: Herewith)	
)	
For: Directed Evolution of)	
Microorganisms)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment places this Continuation Application of the prior application Serial No. 10/037,677, filed October 23, 2001 (a copy of which is filed herewith) in condition to begin prosecution.

Instructions to amend the Specification begin on page 2, while instructions for amendments to the Claims begin on page 9, the Remarks section is on page 13. None of the amendments to the Claims is intended to narrow the scope of any of the amended Claims within the meaning of *Festo*¹. Prior to examination, please amend the application submitted herewith as follows.

¹ *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, No. 95-1066, 2000 WL 1753646 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 29, 2000).